
Public Library Grant for Skill Development in Rural Alberta 2024-2025

Application Package

Purpose

The grant is designed to encourage boards to strengthen their service and/or program offerings to support their communities in becoming resilient and sustainable. Specifically, this grant is intended to support public library initiatives in rural public libraries (including projects, library programs, computers, or other technology and related equipment purchases) that promote:

- digital literacy, such as basic computer skills, cybersecurity and fraud detection, and evaluating online information effectively;
- employment and job skills development, such as resume writing, job interviewing, and career exploration; and
- support for new Canadians, such as citizenship supports, English language learning, employment supports, and welcoming communities.

Grant Guidelines

Public Library Services Branch (PLSB) has \$200,000 provided by Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation to distribute to rural library boards as 40 grants of \$5,000 each. **This funding is separate from the PLSB operating grant funding.**

Alberta municipal, intermunicipal, First Nations, and Metis Settlement library boards serving rural jurisdictions who meet the criteria are eligible for a grant under this program.

For purposes of this grant, a rural jurisdiction has the following characteristics:

- a population of less than 20,000 people;
- limited geographic proximity to population centres over 25,000 that could provide sources of employment and services;
- communities may be remote and/or have in them, or around them, a significant amount of nature, natural resources, agricultural land and wilderness areas

Applications must be for initiatives that have been or will be launched between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2026. Grant recipients will be expected to expend all awarded funds by **March 31, 2026**.

Submitting the Application

The deadline for applications is **November 29, 2024**.

Completed application forms can be emailed to libraries@gov.ab.ca. The successful applicants will be notified in February 2025.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP)

The personal information that is provided in the application submission about the nominee is collected under the authority of section 33(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and is protected by the privacy provisions of that Act. The information will be used for the purpose of administering this grant and to select and publicize the achievements of the award recipients. If you have any questions about the collection, use or disclosure of this information, please contact Kerry Anderson, Assistant Director, at (780) 644-5487 or kerry.anderson@gov.ab.ca.

Application Form

Initiative and Library Board Names

Name of Initiative: _____

Library Board Name: _____

Contact Information

First and Last Name: _____

Position: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Program Information

Please answer the following questions:

1. Describe the library initiative under consideration for the grant.

2. How does this initiative support one or more of the three overarching goals of the grant program (digital literacy, employment skills training, services for new Canadians)?

3. What is the budget for this initiative? Please provide a detailed budget.

Statements

The library board has reviewed the above grant guidelines and understands the purpose of this grant:

- Yes

The library board understands that, if selected, a signing officer of the board will need to sign a grant agreement with the Government of Alberta:

- Yes

Signatures

Signature of Applicant

Date

Please email this completed form to libraries@gov.ab.ca

